

Message Text

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USDA/FAS - HNORTON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, SY

SUBJECT:PL 480 AND TRADE WITH NORTH VIETNAM

REFS: (A) BEIRUT AGATT REPORT SY5001 OF 1/31/75

(B) STATE 216433 (OCT. 1/74)(C) DAMASCUS 2184 (OCT. 3/74)

1. PAGE 12, REF. A ALLUDES TO SYRIAN BILATERAL TRADE AGREEMENT WITH NORTH VIETNAM.

2. AS OUTLINED REF B AND INDICATED DURING NEGOTIATIONS BY US REPS PL 480 PROHIBITS SALES AGREEMENTS WITH COUNTRIES TRADING WITH NORTH VIETNAM. NO WAIVER IS POSSIBLE.

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3. PLEASE INVESTIGATE AND REPORT TO US SOONEST WHETHER
THERE IS IN FACT A SYRIAN-NORTHVIETNAM TRADE AGREEMENT AND,
IF SO STATUS OF ANY CONTRACTS OR TRADE UNDER THIS BILATERAL.

4. PENDING CLARIFICATION BY EMBASSY DAMASCUS, QUESTION OF
TRADE WITH NORTH VIETNAM WILL DELAY ISSUANCE OF PURCHASE
AUTHORIZATIONS UNDER NOV. PL 480 AGREEMENT. MEANWHILE, WE
ARE CONTINUING DISCUSSIONS WITH SYRIAN EMBASSY/WASHINGTON
ON FULFILLMENT OF FORMALITIES NECESSARY BEFORE ISSUANCE OF
PAS, SUCH AS DESIGNATION OF SYRIAN AGENT.

5. REQUEST IMMEDIATE REPLY. KISSINGER

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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